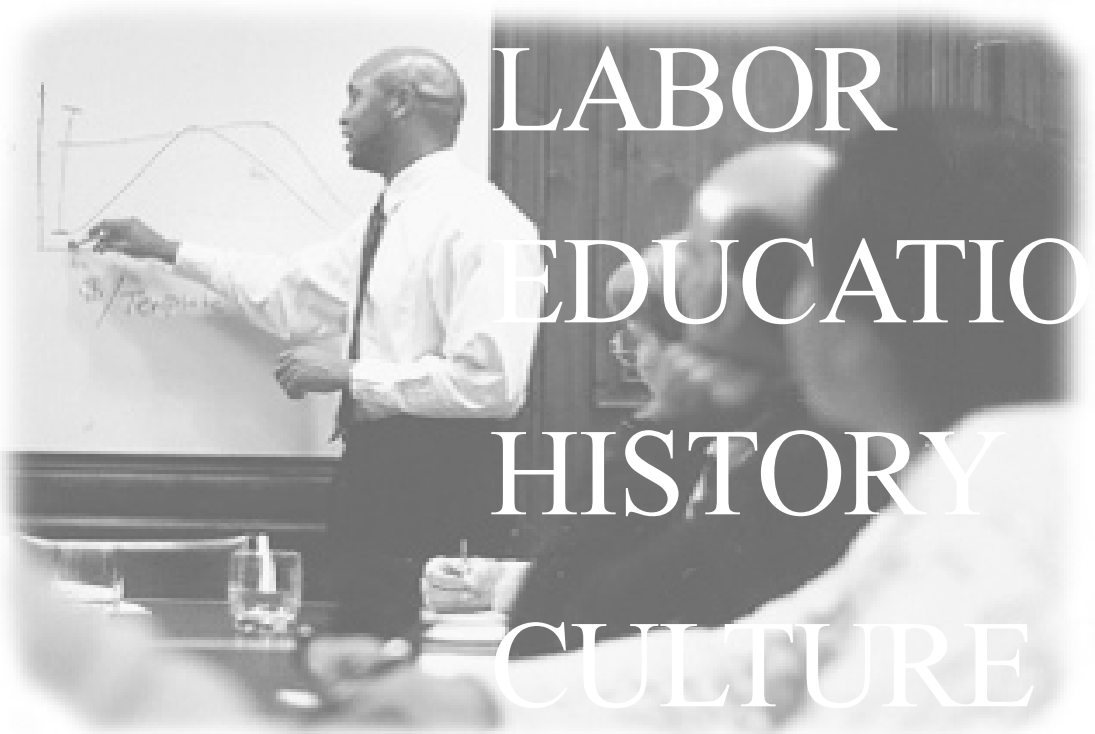


ACADIA



PARISH

“...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



ACADIA
PARISH

Acadia Parish

Acadia Parish Tourist Commission
2111 N. Cherokee Rd.
P.O. Box 1342
Crowley, LA 70527
337-783-2108

Regional Office of Public Health
Larry Richard
Regional Administrator
Acadian Regional Office
Brandywine III, Ste. 100
825 Kaliste Saloom Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-262-5311
337-262-5237 fax

History¹

Acadia Parish was originally part of St. Landry Parish. Established as a separate parish on June 30, 1888, it was settled by the descendants of the Acadians, who were exiled from Nova Scotia and immigrated to Louisiana in the mid-18th century.

Culture and Recreation³

Acadia Parish is the home of the International Rice Festival in Crowley, the Frog Festival in Rayne, the Buggy Festival in Church Point, and the Germanfest in Roberts Cove, as well as the unique Mardi Gras celebration in Church Point and Iota. The elegant architecture of Crowley's huge historic district, the charm of the murals in Rayne, the amazing European-style castle in Mermentau, the Rice Museum and Blue Rose Museum in Crowley, and the tiny pilgrim's chapel in the German settlement called Roberts Cove are all fascinating to visit.



Parish Seat¹ Crowley¹

Major Cities (over 5,000 population)²

Crowley	
1990	13,983
1997 (estimate)	14,445
Rayne	
1990	8,502
1997 (estimate)	8,871

Parish Population²

1990	55,882
1997 (estimate)	57,703

Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)⁶

White	80%
African American	20%
Other	0%
Male	48%
Female	52%
Population age 0-4	8%
Populations age 65 & over	12%



Geography and Statistics²

Average Elevation	10 ft.
Land Area in Square Miles	655.3
Water Area in Square Miles ⁴	2.3

Climate²

Average Temperatures	
Annual	69°
January	55°
July	81°
Annual Average Rainfall	74.63 in.

Labor Force (1995)¹

Civilian	22,300
Employed	20,600
Unemployed	1,700
Unemployment	7.7 %

Agriculture¹

Rice

Colleges/Universities²

(within one hour commute)

Louisiana State University, Eunice
McNeese State University, Lake Charles
University of Southwestern Louisiana,
Lafayette

Public Libraries⁵ 8

Citations:

- ¹ Louisiana Almanac. 1997. Louisiana Almanac, Pelican Press. Gretna, LA
- ² Louisiana Department of Economic Development. 1999. Louisiana Overview. keyword: overview <http://lde.state.la.us>
- ³ Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism.htm>
- ⁴ Police Jury Association of Louisiana. <http://www.lpgov.org/>
- ⁵ State Library of Louisiana. keyword: directories <http://smt.state.lib.la.us/>
- ⁶ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>

Educational Attainment (1990)⁷

Less than 5th grade	9.8%
High school graduate or higher	54.6%
Some college or higher	21.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	8.4%

Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees²

Private Employers	
Body Masters Sports, Inc. (Fitness Equipment)	480
American Legion Hospital (Medical)	390
Capitol Manufacturing Co. (Pipes and Fittings)	360
Public Employers	
Acadia Parish School Board System (Education)	1,251
Louisiana State University, Eunice (Education)	120
Acadia Parish Sheriff's Dept. (Law Enforcement)	115

Poverty and Income

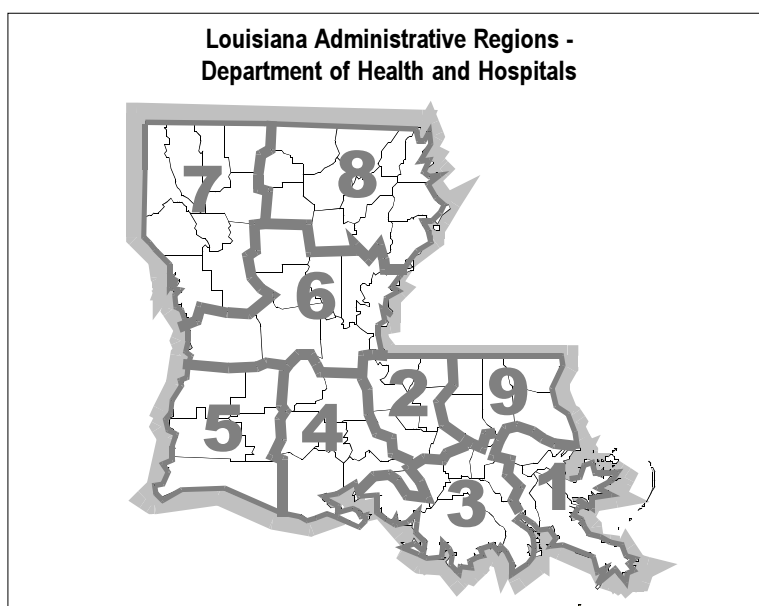
Persons in poverty (1995) ⁷	24.8%
Children under age 18 in poverty ⁷	34.6%
Per Capita income (1996) ⁸	\$15,651



**ACADIA
PARISH**

⁷ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>

⁸ U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>.



Region 1

Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard

Region 2

Ascension
East Baton Rouge
East Feliciana
Iberville
Pointe Coupee
West Baton Rouge
West Feliciana

Region 3

Assumption
Lafourche
St. Charles
St. James
St. John
St. Mary
Terrebonne

Region 4

Acadia
Evangeline
Iberia
Lafayette
St. Landry
St. Martin
Vermilion

Region 5

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Jefferson Davis

Region 6

Avoyelles
Catahoula
Concordia
Grant
LaSalle
Rapides
Vernon
Winn

Region 7

Bienville
Bossier
Caddo
Claiborne
DeSoto
Natchitoches
Red River
Sabine
Webster

Region 8

Caldwell
East Carroll
Franklin
Jackson
Lincoln
Madison
Morehouse
Ouachita
Richland
Tensas
Union
West Carroll

Region 9

Livingston
St. Helena
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington